

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
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DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AN:WARILEY/PAH
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P R 201505Z JUH 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:EAIR, JO, US, SY

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: ALIA PLANS FOR ARAB AIR CARRIERS
ORGANIZATION

1. ON JUNE 13, JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR SALAH MADE REPRESENTATION TO NEA (DRAPER) ON BEHALF OF ALI GHANDOUR OF ALIA,
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WHO IS REPORTEDLY CURRENT HEAD OF ARAB AIR CARRIERS
ORGANIZATION. SALAH NOTED THAT THE TERM OF THE

ORGANIZATION'S MANDATE TO CONSIDER FORMING A CONSORTIUM
OR ARAB AIRLINES TO INCREASE NORTH ATLANTIC FLIGHTS ON A
COLLECTIVE BASIS WAS COMING TO AN END. SALAH INDICATED

THAT ALIA GOT AGREEMENT FROM SYRIAN ARAB AIRLINES (SAA),
SAUDIA, MEA, GULF AIR AND KUWAIT AIR ON JUNE 7
IN AMMAN , TO "CONSIDER" JOINT APPLICATION FOR FLIGHTS
TO THE U.S., WHICH ALIA BELIEVES REFLECTS ADVICE USG GAVE
TO THEM IN 1977. EGYPT AIR IS NOT INTERESTED, THOUGH
IRAQI AIR MIGHT BE, DEPENDING ON U.S. RECEPTIVENESS.

2. ADDITIONALLY, JOURNAL OF COMMERCE JUNE 13 REPORT
DATELINED AMMAN INDICATED ARAB AIR CARRIERS ORGANIZATION
HAD MET IN AMMAN AND DECIDED TO SEND DELEGATION TO
WASHINGTON TO SEEK APPROVAL OF CAB FOR KUWAIT AIRWAYS AND

MEA TO JOIN CONSORTIUM THAT ALREADY INCLUDES ALIA AND SAA'

3. ACCORDING TO SALAH, REPRESENTATIVES FROM ARAB AIRLINES:
ALI GHANDOUR, ALIA; RIDA HAKEEM, SAUDIA; SALIM SALAM,
MEA; ADLI DAJANI, GULF AIR; PLUS AN UNSPECIFIED
REPRESENTATIVE FROM KUWAIT AIR WOULD LIKE TO COME TO U.S.
AROUND JULY 5 OR 6 TO ENGAGE IN PRELIMINARY TALKS WITH
U.S. OFFICIALS ON USG RECEPTIVENESS TOWARD CONSORTIUM
OF AIRLINES. PLAN IS TO DETERMINE U.S. "MOOD" TOWARD
THE IDEA NOT TO START OFFICIAL NEGOTIATIONS .

4. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO KNOW IF ADDRESSEE POSTS HAVE ANY
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON LATEST SCHEME FOR JOINT ARAB
AIR SERVICE TO U.S., AND WHICH AIRLINES APART FROM ALIA
AND SAA ARE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN JOINT SERVICE TO
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U.S. DO THESE AIRLINES WISH TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES WITH
ALI GHANDOUR ON EARLY TRIP TO U.S.?

5. DEPT'S OFFICE OF AVIATION WOULD BE READY TO RECEIVE
SUCH A GROUP AFTERNOON OF JULY 5 BUT, IN ANY EVENT,
WOULD LIKE TO HAVE UP-TO-DATE VIEW OF GROUP MEMBERS. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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